THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Accidents at level crossings in A.P.

*6. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI. Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents at level crossings in Andhra Pradesh and the loss of lives involved during the last two years; and

(b) the steps taken to stop such accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) In Andhra Pradesh, the number of level crossing accidents and resultant loss of lives during the period 2003-04 to 2004-05 have been as under:—

Year	Manned level crossing accidents	Fatalities	Unmanned level crossing accidents	Fatalities
2003-2004	1	1	7 3	12
2004-2005				3
TOTAL	*4*	1	to	15

(Figures are provisional)

(b) The important steps being taken to prevent accidents at level crossings are as under:

(i) Provision of road signs and speed breakers/rumble strips on approaches to level crossings so that road vehicle drivers reduce their speed.

(ii) Whistle boards alongside the rail track on approach to level crossings, from where train drivers whistle in order to warn road users about the approaching train.

(iii) Progressive manning of unmanned level crossings based on laid down criteria. Provision of telephones at manned level crossing gates, progressive interlocking of gates, construction of road over bridges/road under bridges having Train Vehicle Units (TVU) more than one lakh on high density routes.

(iv) Safety drives, surprise checks and night inspections to check the alertness of gatemen and train drivers.

(v) Social awareness programmes involving educative campaigns through various media like quickies on Television, cinema slides, posters, talks on radio, newspaper advertisements and street plays. Involvement of local bodies like Panchayat and Municipality in educating the road vehicle users and joint ambush checks with State authorities.

Female foeticide

*7. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of female fetuses aborted in the country during the last two decades;

(b) whether it is a fact that the aborted figure may be equivalent to the population of some small countries as per the study of the United Nations Population Fund;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps are being taken by the Centre to eschew a gender imbalance with alarming social consequences for the future?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND **FAMILY WELFARE** (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) State/UT wise incidents of foeticide reported during 1994 to 2004 is given as per enciosd statement (See below). The male and female break-up of foeticide is not maintained.

(b) and (c) No such study **has** been done by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA).

(d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has undertaking training of trainers from State Judicial Academies to train lower judiciary and public prosecutors with the objective to sensitize the judiciary on the issue. National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC) having representatives of Department of Women & Child Development, National Commission for Women, Indian Council for Medical Research as members, undertakes periodic visits to the districts with low child sex ratio (0-6 years) to oversee the implementation of the Act at ground level and monitors the prosecutions launched against unregistered bodies and